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Agenda item 54

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Report of the Second Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee considered the item at its 21st, 22nd, 24th and 33rd meetings, on 26 October, 2 November and 6 December 2006. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.21, 22, 24 and 33). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 2 to 4 October (see A/C.2/61/SR.2-6).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (A/61/262);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda (A/61/363);



(c) Note verbale dated 6 November 2006 from the representative of Pakistan to the President of the General Assembly (A/C.2/61/9).

4. At the 21st meeting, on 26 October, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/61/SR.21).

5. At the same meeting, in accordance with the provisions of section C, paragraph 3 (d), of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the Committee held a question time, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of Brazil and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), to which the Executive Director of UN-Habitat responded.

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.17 and A/C.2/61/L.57

6. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" (A/C.2/61/L.17), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004 and 60/203 of 22 December 2005,

"Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005 and 2006/247 of 27 July 2006,

"Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation') to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

"Recalling also the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,

"Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recognizing that the overall thrust and strategic vision of UN-Habitat and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development,

"*Conscious of the unique opportunity provided by the Cities Without Slums Initiative mentioned in the Millennium Declaration for realizing economies of scale and substantial multiplier effects in helping to attain the other Millennium Development Goals,*

"*Acknowledging the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation issues within a broad-based approach to human settlements,*

"*Noting with appreciation the convening by the Government of Pakistan of the second South Asian Conference on Sanitation, held on 20 and 21 September 2006 in Islamabad,*

"*Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Kenya, the African Union and UN-Habitat for convening and hosting the African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development in Nairobi on 3 and 4 April 2006,*

"*Expressing its appreciation also to the Government of Canada and the city of Vancouver for hosting the third session of the World Urban Forum from 19 to 23 June 2006 and to the Government of China and the city of Nanjing for their willingness to host the fourth session of the World Urban Forum in 2008,*

"*Expressing its appreciation further to the Government of India for its offer to host the first Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Human Settlements in New Delhi in December 2006,*

"*Taking note of the report entitled *State of the World's Cities 2006: The Millennium Development Goals and Urban Sustainability — 30 Years of Shaping the Habitat Agenda*,*

"*Recognizing the continued urgent need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,*

"1. *Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),*

"2. *Encourages Governments to consider an enhanced approach to achieving the Cities Without Slums Initiative mentioned in the United Nations Millennium Declaration by upgrading existing slums and creating policies and programmes, according to national circumstances, to forestall the growth of future slums, and in this regard invites the international donor community and multilateral and regional development banks to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through increased voluntary financial assistance;*

"3. *Takes note* of the special annex for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation appended by the Secretary-General to the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations.

"4. *Calls for* continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and invites Governments to provide predictable multi-year funding to support programme implementation.

"5. *Also calls for* increased, non-earmarked contributions to the Foundation;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining the poverty eradication, gender equality, water and sanitation and slum upgrading targets of the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;

"7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi.

"8. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility and the technical cooperation trust funds to enable UN-Habitat to assist developing countries to mobilize public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services.

"9. *Acknowledges* contributions of the regional consultative initiatives, including conferences of ministers in the area of human settlements, for implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

"10. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen its regional offices, and invites developed countries and other countries in a position to do so to support the technical activities of UN-Habitat;

"11. *Reiterates* the need for UN-Habitat to intensify coordination in the framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment and to continue to work with the World Bank, regional development banks and other relevant partners to field-test innovative policies, practices and pilot projects in order to increase the supply of affordable credit for slum upgrading and other pro-poor human settlements development in developing countries;

"12. *Invites* all Governments to participate actively in the fourth session of the World Urban Forum, and invites donor countries to support the participation of representatives from developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, including women and youth, in the Forum;

"13. *Recognizes* the important role and contribution of UN-Habitat in supporting the efforts of countries affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies to develop prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes for the transition from relief to development, and in this regard requests UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to continue to work closely with other relevant agencies in the United Nations system, and invites the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to include UN-Habitat in its membership;

"14. *Requests* UN-Habitat, through its involvement in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and through contacts with relevant United Nations agencies and partners in the field, to promote the early involvement of human settlements experts in the assessment and development of prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to support the efforts of developing countries affected by natural disasters and other complex humanitarian emergencies;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

"16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled 'Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)'."

7. At its 33rd meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)" (A/C.2/61/L.57) submitted by the Vice-Chairman, Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.17.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

9. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.57 (see para. 12).

10. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union, and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey, as well as Moldova and Ukraine) and Canada (see A/C.2/61/SR.33).

11. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.57, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.17 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

12. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004 and 60/203 of 22 December 2005,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005 and 2006/247 of 27 July 2006,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")² to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda,³ the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,⁴ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,⁵ the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁶

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁷

Recognizing that the overall thrust and strategic vision of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

³ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

⁴ Resolution S-25/2, annex.

⁵ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁶ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁷ See resolution 60/1.

international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development.

Conscious of the unique opportunity provided by the Cities Without Slums Initiative mentioned in the Millennium Declaration for realizing economies of scale and substantial multiplier effects in helping to attain the other Millennium Development Goals.

Acknowledging the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation issues within a broad-based approach to human settlements.

Noting with appreciation the convening by the Government of Pakistan of the second South Asian Conference on Sanitation, held in Islamabad on 20 and 21 September 2006.

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Kenya, the African Union and UN-Habitat for hosting the second African Ministerial Conference on Housing and Urban Development and the Africities Summit in Nairobi on 3 and 4 April 2006 and from 18 to 24 September 2006, respectively.

Expressing its appreciation also to the Government of Canada and the city of Vancouver for hosting the third session of the World Urban Forum from 19 to 23 June 2006 and to the Government of China and the city of Nanjing for their willingness to host the fourth session of the World Urban Forum in 2008.

Expressing its appreciation further to the Government of India for its offer to host the first Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Housing and Human Settlements in New Delhi in December 2006.

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Uruguay for hosting the fifteenth regular Assembly of Ministers and High-level Authorities of the Housing and Urban Development Sector in Latin America and the Caribbean, held from 4 to 6 October 2006 in Montevideo.

Taking note of the report entitled *State of the World's Cities 2006/7: the Millennium Development Goals and Urban Sustainability – 30 Years of Shaping the Habitat Agenda*.⁸

Recognizing the need for UN-Habitat to sharpen its focus on all areas within its mandate.

Recognizing also the continued urgent need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation.

Noting the efforts by UN-Habitat to strengthen its collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other international organizations and its participation in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs.

⁸ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.06.III.Q.3.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda⁹ and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat),¹⁰

Taking note also of the special annex for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation¹¹ appended by the Secretary-General to the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations,¹²

1. *Requests* the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to address, in a comprehensive manner, any issues relating to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation at its twenty-first session, bearing in mind the need to effectively mobilize resources for the Foundation;

2. *Encourages* Governments to consider an enhanced approach to achieving the Cities Without Slums Initiative mentioned in the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ by upgrading existing slums and creating policies and programmes, according to national circumstances, to forestall the growth of future slums, and in this regard invites the international donor community and multilateral and regional development banks to support the efforts of developing countries, inter alia, through increased voluntary financial assistance;

3. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda,² the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium⁴ and the Millennium Declaration, and stresses the need for the international community to fully implement commitments to support Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through the provision of the requisite resources, capacity-building, the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms and the creation of an international enabling environment;

4. *Calls for* continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and invites Governments to provide predictable multi-year funding to support programme implementation;

5. *Also calls for* increased, non-earmarked contributions to the Foundation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining the poverty eradication, gender equality, water and sanitation and slum upgrading targets of the Millennium Declaration, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation³ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;⁵

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary

⁹ E/2006/71.

¹⁰ A/61/262.

¹¹ ST/SGB/2006/8.

¹² ST/SGB/2003/7.

services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi.

8. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of UN-Habitat to develop a results-based and less fragmented budget structure with a view to securing maximum efficiency, accountability and transparency in programme delivery regardless of funding source;

9. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility and the technical cooperation trust funds to enable UN-Habitat to assist developing countries to mobilize public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services;

10. *Acknowledges* contributions of the regional consultative initiatives, including conferences of ministers in the area of human settlements, for implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and invites the international community to support such efforts;

11. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen its regional approach to coordination and implementation of its normative and operational activities and invites all countries in a position to do so to support the activities of UN-Habitat in this regard;

12. *Requests* UN-Habitat to intensify coordination in the framework of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the common country assessment and to continue to work with the World Bank, regional development banks, other development banks, regional organizations and other relevant partners to field-test innovative policies, practices and pilot projects in order to mobilize resources to increase the supply of affordable credit for slum upgrading and other pro-poor human settlements development in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

13. *Invites* all Governments to participate actively in the fourth session of the World Urban Forum, and invites donor countries to support the participation of representatives from developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, including women and youth, in the Forum;

14. *Recognizes* the important role and contribution of UN-Habitat in supporting the efforts of countries affected by natural disasters and complex emergencies to develop prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes for the transition from relief to development, and in this regard requests UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to continue to work closely with other relevant agencies in the United Nations system, and strongly reiterates its invitation to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to consider including UN-Habitat in its membership;

15. *Requests* UN-Habitat, through its involvement in the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs and through contacts with relevant United Nations agencies and partners in the field, to promote the early involvement of human settlements experts in the assessment and development of prevention, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes to support the efforts of developing countries affected by natural disasters and complex humanitarian emergencies;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

**General Assembly**

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 55

Globalization and interdependence**Report of the Second Committee***

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled:

"Globalization and interdependence;

"(a) Globalization and interdependence;

"(b) International migration and development;

"(c) Culture and development;

"(d) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

"(e) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy"

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 15th to 18th meetings, on 19, 20 and 23 October. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.15-18). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 2 to 4 October (see A/C.2/61/SR.2-6). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/61/424 and Add.1-5.



Item 55**Globalization and interdependence**

Letter dated 28 September 2006 from the representative of South Africa addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/486)

Item 55 (a)**Globalization and interdependence**

Report of the Secretary-General on the role of innovation, science and technology in pursuing development in the context of globalization (A/61/286)

Item 55 (b)**International migration and development**

Report of the Secretary-General (A/60/871)

Note by the President of the General Assembly transmitting the summary of informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector (A/60/187)

Note by the President of the General Assembly transmitting the summary of the first High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held at United Nations Headquarters on 14 and 15 September 2006 (A/61/515)

Letter dated 13 April 2006 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Belgium addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/73)

Letter dated 7 June 2006 from the representative of Peru addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/61/91)

Letter dated 19 July 2006 from the representative of Morocco addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/170)

Letter dated 31 March 2006 from the representative of Benin addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/230)

Note verbale dated 31 August 2006 from the Permanent Mission of Argentina addressed to the Secretariat (A/61/315)

Letter dated 1 September 2006 from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/61/316)

Letter dated 5 September 2006 from the representative of Brazil addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/321)

Letter dated 30 August 2006 from the representative of the Dominican Republic addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/61/343)

Letter dated 7 September 2006 from the representative of the Congo addressed to the President of the General Assembly, transmitting documents adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its ninth ordinary session, held in Banjul, from 25 to 29 July 2006 (A/61/345)

Letter dated 14 September 2006 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/346)

Letter dated 5 October 2006 from the representative of Mexico addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/506)

Item 55 (c)

Culture and development

Letter dated 18 May 2006 from the representative of Paraguay addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/86)

Letter dated 14 September 2006 from the representative of Kazakhstan addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/378-S/2006/761)

Item 55 (d)

Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Report of the Secretary-General (A/61/177)

Item 55 (e)

Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Report of the Secretary-General (A/61/269)

Letter dated 12 June 2006 from the representatives of Azerbaijan and Lithuania to the Secretary-General (A/61/93)

Letter dated 6 July 2006 from the representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the Secretary-General (A/61/126)

Letter dated 24 July 2006 from the representative of Azerbaijan addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/181)

4. At the 15th meeting, on 19 October, introductory statements were made by the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Director of the Population Division of the Department, the Programme Specialist for Culture of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Programme Officer of the New York Office of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Director of the Development Policy and Analysis Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (see A/C.2/61/SR.15).

5. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (see A/C.2/61/SR.15).



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Agenda item 55 (a)

Globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 55 (see A/61/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 24th and 34th meetings, on 2 November and 8 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.24 and 34).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.15 and A/C.2/61/L.69

2. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/61/L.15), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004 and 60/204 of 22 December 2005 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

"Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/61/424 and Add.1-5.



"Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including Assembly resolution 60/265 on follow-up to the 2005 World Summit Outcome in the economic, social and related fields,

"Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement, at all levels, the commitments in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields,

"Recognizing that countries diverge greatly in terms of their abilities to access, diffuse and use scientific and technological knowledge, most of which is generated in developed countries and protected by intellectual property rights,

"Recognizing also that developing countries have varying capacities to translate scientific and technological knowledge into goods and services and to invest in human resources and entrepreneurial capacity-building,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. Recognizes that many countries, especially the least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalizing world economy, and recognizes also that, as stated in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the benefits are very unevenly shared, while the costs are unevenly distributed;

"3. Reaffirms the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

"4. Underlines the fact that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, i.e., the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments;

"5. Recognizes that the growing gap in technology and scientific capabilities between developed and developing countries is a continuing

concern as it impedes the capacity of many developing countries to participate fully in the global economy;

"6. *Recognizes also* that science and technology are vital for sharing the benefits of globalization;

"7. *Recognizes further* that making globalization a positive force for all can be accomplished through the involvement, cooperation and partnership of Governments and other stakeholders and that promoting international cooperation for development and promoting policy coherence on global development issues are indispensable to this end;

"8. *Stresses* that the 'international technology gap' is one of the main causes of the rapidly expanding socio-economic gap between developed and developing countries and rich and poor nations and constitutes a major challenge for developing countries in their efforts to achieve the development goals;

"9. *Urges* the international community to work together to ensure that the development dimensions are mainstreamed into global intellectual property rights regimes, guaranteeing an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and avoiding excessively high costs of proprietary technology;

"10. *Stresses* the need to promote and facilitate access to the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies to developing countries and stresses also the need to enhance the development dimension of the international intellectual property rights system, taking into account the different levels of development of developing countries, with a view to ensuring affordable access to necessary basic products, including medicines and educational tools and software, the transfer of knowledge, the promotion of research and stimulation of innovation and creativity;

"11. *Calls for* technical and financial assistance to developing countries in their efforts to build the human and institutional capacity needed to pursue policies that strengthen their national innovation systems, taking into account their own unique needs, their priorities and their stages of development, and that encourage investments in science and technology education not only for the generation of new technologies but also for the acquisition of the capacities to adapt science and technology developed elsewhere to local conditions;

"12. *Recognizes* that science and technology, including information and communication technologies, are vital for the achievement of development goals and that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advancements and enhance their productive capacity, and in this regard reaffirms the commitment to promoting and facilitating, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, to developing countries;

"13. *Calls for* the creation of an international database on knowledge and research information resulting from publicly funded research and development projects so as to assist developing countries in accessing

technologies and know-how for creating technology-based enterprises and upgrading existing industries;

"14. *Also calls for* regional, subregional and interregional joint research and development projects by mobilizing existing scientific and research and development resources and, where feasible, constructing and supporting cyber-research laboratories by networking sophisticated scientific facilities and research equipment;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on globalization and interdependence, on the theme 'Policy space in the context of globalization and interdependence', under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence' "

3. At its 34th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" (A/C.2/61/L.69), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Aboubacar Sadikh Barry (Senegal), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.15.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.69 had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-Chairman orally corrected the draft resolution.

6. Also at its 34th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.69, as orally corrected (see para. 9).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey, as well as Moldova and Ukraine), the United States of America, Canada (also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand) and South Africa (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) (see A/C.2/61/SR.34).

8. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.69, draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.15 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

9. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004 and 60/204 of 22 December 2005 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome¹ and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including General Assembly resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Emphasizing the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement the commitments in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration² to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Noting that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,³

Reaffirming the commitment to eradicate poverty and hunger and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all and to promote the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization.

¹ See resolution 60/1.

² See resolution 55/2.

³ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

Reaffirming also its strong support for fair globalization and its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, and in this regard recalling the ministerial declaration adopted on 5 July 2006 by the high-level segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development".⁴

Reaffirming further the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, and to that end stressing the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, and acknowledging the need for continued discussion on the issue of the voting power of developing countries in the Bretton Woods institutions, which remains a concern,

Reaffirming its commitment to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and its commitment to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems,

Recognizing that countries diverge greatly in terms of their abilities to access, diffuse and use scientific and technological knowledge, most of which is generated in developed countries,

Recognizing also that developing countries have varying capacities to translate scientific and technological knowledge into goods and services and to invest in human resources and entrepreneurial capacity-building,

1. *Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;⁵*

2. *Recognizes that some countries have successfully adapted to the changes and benefited from globalization but many others, especially the least developed countries, have remained marginalized in the globalizing world economy, and recognizes also that, as stated in the Millennium Declaration,² the benefits are very unevenly shared, while the costs are unevenly distributed;*

3. *Reaffirms the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of development goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and resolves to strengthen coordination within the United Nations system in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;*

4. *Underlines that in addressing the linkages between globalization and sustainable development, particular focus should be placed on identifying and implementing mutually reinforcing policies and practices that promote sustained economic growth, social development and environmental protection and that this requires efforts at both the national and international levels;*

⁴ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/61/3), chap. III, para. 50.*

⁵ A/61/286.

5. *Reaffirms* that good governance is essential for sustainable development, that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation; and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

6. *Reaffirms also* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, that, in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries and that to this end the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries;

7. *Underlines* the fact that the increasing interdependence of national economies in a globalizing world and the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations have meant that the space for national economic policy, i.e., the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines and commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments;

8. *Reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

9. *Stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people;

10. *Invites* developed countries, in particular major industrialized economies, to take into account the effect of their macroeconomic policies on international growth and development;

11. *Recognizes*, at the same time, that domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economic system and that, inter alia, the effective use of trade and investment opportunities can help countries to fight poverty;

12. *Stresses* that, in the increasingly globalizing interdependent world economy, a holistic approach to the interconnected national, international and systemic challenges of financing for development, namely, sustainable, gender-sensitive and people-centred development, is essential and that such an approach must open up opportunities for all and help to ensure that resources are created and used effectively and that solid and accountable institutions are established at all levels;

13. *Recognizes* that the gap in technology and scientific capabilities between developed and developing countries, especially the least developed countries, is a continuing concern, as it impedes the capacity of many developing countries to participate fully in the global economy;

14. *Recognizes also* that science and technology are vital for sharing the benefits of globalization and stresses that the technology gap between developed and developing countries constitutes a major challenge for developing countries in their efforts to achieve development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

15. *Recognizes further* that making globalization a positive force for all can be accomplished through the involvement, cooperation and partnership of Governments and other stakeholders and that promoting international cooperation for development and promoting policy coherence on global development issues are indispensable to this end;

16. *Urges* the international community to continue to work towards facilitating an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to and acquisition of technology for developing countries;

17. *Stresses* the need to promote and facilitate access to the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies for the developing countries through the articulation of policies and measures to foster an enabling environment to facilitate the acquisition and development of technology and to enhance innovation capacity, on the basis of the mandates contained in the Doha Ministerial Declaration;⁶

18. *Calls for* technical and financial assistance to developing countries in their efforts to build human and institutional capacity needed to pursue policies that strengthen their national innovation systems and that encourage investments in science and technology education not only for the generation of new technologies but also the acquisition of the capacities to adapt science and technology developed elsewhere to local conditions;

19. *Recognizes* that science and technology, including information and communication technologies, are vital for the achievement of development goals and that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advancements and enhance their productive capacity, and in this regard reaffirms the commitment to promoting and facilitating, as appropriate, access to and the development, transfer and diffusion of technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, for developing countries;

⁶ See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

20. *Welcomes* existing mechanisms and initiatives which assist developing countries in accessing technologies, encourages the strengthening and enhancement of existing mechanisms and the consideration of initiatives, including the creation of international databases on knowledge and research information, so as to assist developing countries in accessing technologies and know-how for creating technology-based enterprises and upgrading existing industries, and also encourages the strengthening of assistance to developing countries to enhance digital opportunities for all people, putting the potential of information and communication technologies to work in accessing technologies and know-how;

21. *Encourages* existing arrangements and the further promotion of regional, subregional and interregional joint research and development projects by, where feasible, mobilizing existing scientific and research and development resources and by networking sophisticated scientific facilities and research equipment;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on globalization and interdependence on the theme "Impact that, inter alia, international commitments, policies and processes can have on the scope and the implementation of national development strategies" under the agenda item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".



General Assembly

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13 December 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session
Agenda item 55 (b)

Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 55 (see A/61/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 22nd and 32nd meetings, on 26 October and 1 December. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.22 and 32).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.12 and A/C.2/61/L.47

2. At the 22nd meeting, on 26 October, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/61/L.12), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995, 52/189 of 18 December 1997, 54/212 of 22 December 1999, 56/203 of 21 December 2001, 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/206 of 22 December 2005 and 60/227 of 23 December 2005 on international migration and development,

"Recalling also its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/61/424 and Add.1-5.



"Recalling further its resolution 60/265 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

"Recalling Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2,

"Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

"Acknowledging also the negative economic and social impacts resulting from forced international migration,

"Acknowledging further the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

"Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

"Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"Reaffirming the resolve expressed by Heads of State and Government to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,

"Recognizing that the increasing feminization of international migration requires greater sensitivity in all policies and efforts related to the subject of international migration,

"Recognizing also the impact of migration on the effectiveness of public services, and the need to address, as appropriate, shortages of workers, including health and education workers, while giving appropriate attention to enhancing the capacity of developing countries in this regard,

"Noting the efforts of Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, organizations, funds and programmes and international and intergovernmental organizations in respect of convening events at the national, regional and international levels with a view to advancing the dialogue on the issue of international migration and development,

"Noting also the offer to convene a global consultative forum on international migration and development in Belgium in 2007,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled 'International migration and development';

"2. Welcomes the recent convening of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, on 14 and 15 September 2006 in New York, and notes the high level of participation by Member States, which

provided an opportunity for discussing the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development;

"3. *Welcomes also* the momentum created by the High-level Dialogue on the issue, and decides to consider, at its sixty-third session, the possible options for an appropriate follow-up to the High-level Dialogue within the United Nations;

"4. *Welcomes further* the ongoing efforts of Governments in the area of regional and interregional cooperation and regional consultative processes, where they exist, towards facilitating the dialogue and the exchange of information and experiences, bringing together countries of origin, transit and destination, fostering coordination and coherence at the regional and national levels, building common understanding, promoting cooperation and contributing to capacity-building;

"5. *Takes note* of the establishment of the Global Migration Group as an inter-agency coordination group;

"6. *Reaffirms* the need to adopt policies and undertake measures to reduce the cost of transferring migrant remittances to developing countries, and welcomes the efforts of Governments and stakeholders in this regard;

"7. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education has an impact on the development efforts of developing countries;

"8. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their continuing mandated activities, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way within the broader context of the implementation of agreed economic and social development goals and respect for human rights;

"9. *Recalls* its resolution 55/93, by which it proclaimed 18 December International Migrants Day, and invites Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to include in the observance of International Migrants Day, the developmental dimension of international migration, as highlighted by the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, by sharing experiences and best practices on, inter alia, how to maximize the benefits of international migration and reduce its negative impacts;

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled 'International migration and development'."

3. At its 32nd meeting, on 1 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/60/L.47), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Aboubacar Sadikh Barry

(Senegal), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.12.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.47 (see para. 8).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Finland (on behalf of the European Union) and Indonesia (see A/C.2/61/SR.32).

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.47, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.12 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/127 of 19 December 1994, 50/123 of 20 December 1995, 52/189 of 18 December 1997, 54/212 of 22 December 1999, 56/203 of 21 December 2001, 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004 and 60/227 of 23 December 2005 on international migration and development, and 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,² and recalling the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,³ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women⁴ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁵

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,⁶

Recalling also Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,⁷

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

Acknowledging also the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

¹ See resolution 60/1.

² Resolution 217 A (III).

³ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

⁷ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

*Reaffirming the resolve expressed by Heads of State and Government to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families;*⁸

Noting the efforts of Member States, relevant United Nations bodies, organizations, funds and programmes and international and intergovernmental organizations, including the International Organization for Migration, in respect of convening events at the national, regional and international levels with a view to advancing the dialogue on the issue of international migration and development,

Noting with interest the offer of the Government of Belgium to convene a state-led initiative, the Global Forum on Migration and Development, in 2007,

1. *Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development;*⁹

2. *Welcomes the convening of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, on 14 and 15 September 2006 in New York, and the high level and broad participation that provided an opportunity to discuss the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development;*

3. *Takes note of the Chairperson's summary of the High-level Dialogue;*¹⁰

4. *Welcomes the heightened awareness raised by the High-level Dialogue on the issue and decides to consider, at its sixty-third session, possible options for appropriate follow-up to the High-level Dialogue;*

5. *Also welcomes the ongoing efforts of Governments in the area of regional and interregional cooperation and regional consultative processes, where they exist, on migration and encourages consideration of development dimensions in such processes, towards facilitating the dialogue and the exchange of information and experiences, fostering coordination at the regional and national levels, building common understanding, promoting cooperation, contributing to capacity-building and strengthening partnerships among countries of origin, transit and destination;*

6. *Takes note with interest of the establishment of the Global Migration Group;*

7. *Calls upon all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way within the broader context of the implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals and respect for human rights;*

8. *Recalls its resolution 55/93 of 4 December 2000, by which it proclaimed 18 December International Day of the Migrant, and invites Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to include in the observance of International Day of the Migrant the developmental dimension of international migration, as highlighted by the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and*

⁸ See resolutions 55/2 and 60/1.

⁹ A/60/871.

¹⁰ A/61/515.

Development held in New York, by sharing experiences and best practices on, inter alia, how to maximize the benefits of international migration and reduce its negative impacts;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development".



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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 55 (c)

Globalization and interdependence: culture and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 55 (see A/61/424, para. 2).
2. No action was taken by the Committee on sub-item (c).

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/61/424 and Add.1-5.



**General Assembly**

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 55 (d)

Globalization and interdependence: preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 55 (see A/61/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (d) was taken at the 24th and 33rd meetings, on 2 November and 6 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.24 and 33).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.20 and A/C.2/61/L.53

2. At the 24th meeting, on 2 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption" (A/C.2/61/L.20), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/61/424 and Add.1-5.



resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004 and 60/207 of 22 December 2005 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin.

"Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

"Welcoming also the convening of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Jordan from 10 to 14 December 2006,

"Reiterating its invitation to all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations within the limits of their competence to ratify or accede to and fully implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption as soon as possible,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Welcomes* the generous offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in 2007;

"3. *Reaffirms* the commitment to make the fight against corruption a priority at all levels, and welcomes all actions taken in this regard at the national and international levels, including the adoption of policies that emphasize accountability, transparent public sector management and corporate responsibility and accountability, including efforts to return assets transferred through corruption, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

"4. *Welcomes* the actions by the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, calls upon the private sector to continue to make efforts in this regard, takes note with appreciation of the work undertaken by the Global Compact in its consideration of its tenth principle, on anti-corruption, and emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability;

"5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on the implementation of previous resolutions and to elaborate further on the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption and the impact of corruption and such transfers on economic growth and sustainable development, as well as the outcome of the first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session, under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence', a sub-item entitled 'Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption'."

3. At its 33rd meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption" (A/C.2/61/L.53), submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Aboubacar Sadikh Barry (Senegal), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.20.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.53 (see para. 8).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Finland (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Canada and Japan.

7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.20 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, and recalling also its resolutions 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004 and 60/207 of 22 December 2005,

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹

Welcoming also the convening of the first session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Jordan from 10 to 14 December 2006,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²
2. *Also takes note* of the generous offer of the Government of Indonesia to host the second session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
3. *Urges* all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption as a matter of priority, and calls upon all States parties to fully implement the Convention as soon as possible;
4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report, completed within existing resources, on the implementation of previous resolutions that would elaborate further on the magnitude of corruption at all levels and on any scale, and on the scale of the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption and the impact of corruption and such transfers on economic growth and sustainable development, taking into account the outcome of, and also transmitting the report on, the first Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;
5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption".

¹ Resolution 58/4, annex.

² A/61/177.





General Assembly

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13 December 2006

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 55 (e)

Globalization and interdependence: integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 55 (see A/61/424, para. 2). Action on sub-item (e) was taken at the 20th and 25th meetings, on 25 October and 7 November 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.20 and 25).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.11 and /Rev.1

2. At the 20th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Belarus, on behalf of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Croatia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy" (A/C.2/61/L.11), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming its resolutions 47/187 of 22 December 1992, 48/181 of 21 December 1993, 49/106 of 19 December 1994, 51/175 of 6 December 1996, 53/179 of 15 December 1998, 55/191 of 20 December 2000, 57/247 of 20 December 2002 and 59/243 of 22 December 2004,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome and relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted at its sixtieth session which contain the

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in six parts, under the symbol A/61/424 and Add.1-5.



provisions on addressing the special needs of the countries with economies in transition.

"Reaffirming the need for the full integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy, and in this regard stressing the importance of ensuring a conducive international environment,

"Welcoming the progress made in those countries towards market-oriented reforms and achieving macroeconomic and financial stability and economic growth, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies, good governance and the rule of law, and noting the need to sustain those positive trends,

"Noting that in some economies in transition this progress has been slower, resulting in lower aggregate development levels and lower per capita income,

"Taking into account that the poverty level is still high in many countries with economies in transition, in particular in the rural areas,

"Stressing the importance of continued international assistance to countries with economies in transition to support their efforts towards market-oriented reforms, institution-building, infrastructure development and achieving macroeconomic and financial stability and economic growth, and to ensure that they are fully integrated into the world economy.

"Recognizing, in particular, the need to enhance the capacity of those countries to utilize effectively the benefits of globalization, including those in the field of information and communication technologies, and to respond more adequately to its challenges.

"Recognizing also the continuing need for favourable conditions for market access of exports from countries with economies in transition, in accordance with multilateral trade agreements,

"Recognizing further the important role that foreign direct investment should play in those countries, and stressing the need to create an enabling environment, both domestically and internationally, to attract more foreign direct investment to those countries,

"Recognizing the role that the private sector can play in the socio-economic development of those countries and their integration into the world economy, and stressing the importance of fostering a favourable environment for private investment and entrepreneurship,

"Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

"1. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the organizations of the United Nations system to implement General Assembly resolutions on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

"2. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, and *invites* the Bretton Woods institutions, in collaboration with relevant non-United Nations multilateral and regional institutions, to continue to conduct analytical activities and provide policy advice and targeted and substantial technical assistance to the

Governments of the countries with economies in transition aimed at strengthening the social, legal and political framework for completing market-oriented reforms, supporting national development priorities with a view to sustaining the positive trends and reversing any declines in the economic and social development of those countries;

"3. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of the further integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy, taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ('Johannesburg Plan of Implementation');

"4. *Stresses* the need to focus international assistance to countries with economies in transition on those facing particular difficulties in socio-economic development, implementing market-oriented reforms and meeting internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and welcomes efforts made by countries with economies in transition to improve governance and institutional capabilities in order to use aid more effectively;

"5. *Welcomes* the efforts made by countries with economies in transition in implementing policies that promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, including, inter alia, by promoting competition, regulatory reform, respect for property rights and expeditious contract enforcement, and calls upon the United Nations system to highlight the successful models as good practices;

"6. *Also welcomes* the aspiration of the countries with economies in transition towards the further development of regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, and invites the United Nations system to enhance dialogue with and increase support to the regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes the countries with economies in transition;

"7. *Emphasizes* the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, to that end stresses the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern, and in this regard calls for further and effective progress;

"8. *Recognizes* the importance of infrastructure development for the diversification of economies of the countries with economies in transition and for increasing their gains from trade, and encourages Governments, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to support such infrastructure development efforts in this regard;

"9. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating the accession of the countries with economies in transition that apply for membership in the World Trade Organization, bearing in mind paragraph 21 of resolution 55/182 and subsequent developments.

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in close consultation with the countries with economies in transition, a report on the implementation of the present resolution, inter alia, containing substantial recommendations, including on the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and those countries, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session."

3. At its 25th meeting, on 7 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy" (A/C.2/61/L.11/Rev.1), submitted by Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mongolia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United States of America and Uzbekistan. Subsequently, Chile, Israel and Moldova joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.11/Rev.1 (see para. 8).

6. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the Czech Republic, also on behalf of Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia (see A/C.2/61/SR.25).

7. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Aboubacar Sadikh Barry (Senegal) (see A/C.2/61/SR.25).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/187 of 22 December 1992, 48/181 of 21 December 1993, 49/106 of 19 December 1994, 51/175 of 6 December 1996, 53/179 of 15 December 1998, 55/191 of 20 December 2000, 57/247 of 20 December 2002 and 59/243 of 22 December 2004,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome¹ and relevant General Assembly resolutions adopted at the sixtieth session which contain provisions on addressing the special needs of the countries with economies in transition,

Reaffirming the need for the full integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy, and in this regard stressing the importance of ensuring a conducive national and international environment,

Noting that some of those countries have evolved from the status of economies in transition into functioning market economies,

Noting also that in some economies in transition this progress has been slower, resulting in lower aggregate development levels and lower per capita income,

Taking into account that, despite some progress in the fight against poverty, its level is still high in many countries with economies in transition, particularly in the rural areas,

Stressing the importance of continued international assistance to countries with economies in transition to support their efforts towards market-oriented reforms, institution-building, infrastructure development and achieving macroeconomic and financial stability and economic growth, and to ensure that they are fully integrated into the world economy,

Recognizing, in particular, the need to enhance the capacity of those countries to utilize effectively the benefits of globalization, including those in the field of information and communication technologies, and to respond more adequately to its challenges,

Recognizing also the role that the private sector plays in the socio-economic development of those countries and their integration into the world economy, and stressing the importance of continuing efforts to create a favourable environment for private investment and entrepreneurship,

Recognizing further the continuing need for favourable conditions for market access of exports from countries with economies in transition, in accordance with multilateral trade agreements,

¹ See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing the important role that foreign direct investment can play in those countries, and stressing the need to create an enabling environment, both domestically and internationally, to attract more foreign direct investment to those countries,

*Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,*²

1. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the organizations of the United Nations system to implement General Assembly resolutions on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

2. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, in collaboration with relevant non-United Nations multilateral and regional institutions, to continue to conduct analytical activities and provide policy advice and targeted and substantial technical assistance to the Governments of the countries with economies in transition aimed at strengthening the social, legal and political framework for completing market-oriented reforms, supporting national development priorities with a view to sustaining the positive trends and reversing any declines in the economic and social development of those countries;

3. *Emphasizes* in this regard the importance of the further integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy, taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");⁵

4. *Stresses* the need to focus international assistance, while supporting and complementing domestic efforts and resources, on those countries with economies in transition facing particular difficulties in socio-economic development, implementing market-oriented reforms and meeting internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts and progress made by countries with economies in transition in implementing policies that promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development, including, inter alia, by promoting competition, regulatory reform, good governance and the rule of law, the fight against corruption, respect for property rights and expeditious contract enforcement, and calls upon the United Nations system and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to highlight the successful models as good practices;

6. *Also welcomes* in this regard efforts made by countries with economies in transition to improve governance and institutional capabilities, which contribute to their using aid more effectively;

² A/61/269.

³ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

7. *Encourages* the countries with economies in transition to continue implementing and, where appropriate, to improve measures to sustain and advance the positive trends mentioned above;

8. *Welcomes* the aspiration of the countries with economies in transition to the further development of regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, and invites the United Nations system to enhance dialogue with and increase support to the regional and subregional cooperation organizations whose membership includes countries with economies in transition and whose efforts include assisting their members to fully integrate into the world economy;

9. *Reaffirms* the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, and to that end stresses the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture;

10. *Recognizes* the importance of infrastructure development for diversifying the economies of the countries with economies in transition, and for enhancing their competitiveness and increasing their gains from trade, and encourages the Member States, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to support such infrastructure development efforts in this regard;

11. *Reaffirms* the commitment to work to accelerate and facilitate the accession of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to the World Trade Organization, consistent with its criteria, recognizing the importance of universal integration in the rules-based global trading system;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in close consultation with the countries with economies in transition, a report on the implementation of the present resolution containing, inter alia, substantial recommendations, including on the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and those countries, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
12 December 2006

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 56

Groups of countries in special situations

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled

“Groups of countries in special situations:

“(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

“(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 26th, 28th and 29th meetings, on 8, 10 and 14 November 2006. An account of the Committee's discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.26, 28 and 29). Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th meetings, from 2 to 4 October (see A/C.2/61/SR.2-6). An account of the Committee's further consideration of the item will be provided in the addenda to the present report, as follows:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in three parts, under the symbol A/60/425 and Add.1 and 2.



<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Addendum</i>
(a)	1
(b)	2

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Item 56

Letter dated 28 September 2006 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/486)

(a) Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Secretary-General on implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/61/82-E/2006/74 and A/61/82/Corr.1-E/2006/74/Corr.1)

Report of the Secretary-General for the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/61/173 and Corr.1)

Note by the President of the General Assembly transmitting the summary of the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector (A/61/162)

Report of the preparatory meeting of experts for the high-level meeting on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/61/323)

Letter dated 27 June 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Benin to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/117)

(b) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action (A/61/302)

Letter dated 6 July 2006 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/126)

Letter dated 24 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/61/181)

4. At the 26th meeting, on 8 November, the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States made an introductory statement (see A/C.2/61/SR.26).

5. At the same meeting, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 58/316 of 1 July 2005, the Committee held a dialogue with the High Representative during which comments were made and questions were posed by the delegations of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Afghanistan, Benin, Japan, Paraguay and Bolivia, to which the High Representative responded (see A/C.2/60/SR.26).



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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 56 (a)

Groups of countries in special situations: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 56 (see A/61/425, para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 29th and 33rd meetings, on 14 November and 6 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.29 and 33).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.37 and A/C.2/61/L.64

2. At the 29th meeting, on 14 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/C.2/61/L.37), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

*"Recalling the Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for the
Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,*

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in three parts, under the symbol A/61/425 and Add.1 and 2.



"Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in particular paragraph 15 thereof, in which the Heads of State and Government undertook to address the special needs of the least developed countries,

"Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Recalling also its resolution 60/228 of 23 December 2005,

"Reaffirming its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

"Taking note of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2004 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme 'Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010',

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. Reaffirms its commitment to the Declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, in which they recommitted themselves to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries by making progress towards the goals of poverty eradication, peace and development;

"3. Acknowledges the conclusions of the midterm comprehensive global review, which stressed that despite some progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, the overall socio-economic situation in the least developed countries continues to be precarious and requires attention and that, given current trends, many least developed countries are unlikely to achieve the goals and objectives set out in the Programme of Action;

"4. Stresses that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be effectively achieved in the least developed countries through the timely fulfilment of the seven commitments of the Programme of Action;

"5. Reaffirms that the Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, whose goal is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries;

"6. Also reaffirms that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities for the sustained economic growth and sustainable

development of the least developed countries, as well as strong and committed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners;

"7. *Underscores* that for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, the least developed countries and their development partners must be guided by, inter alia, an integrated approach, a genuine global partnership for development, country ownership and results-oriented actions;

"8. *Urges* the least developed countries to strengthen the implementation of the Programme of Action through their respective national development framework, including, where they exist, poverty reduction strategy papers, the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

"9. *Calls upon* development partners to increase their financial and technical support for the implementation of the Programme of Action with a view to addressing the challenges and constraints identified by the least developed countries and as contained in the Cotonou Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010;

"10. *Encourages* the United Nations resident coordinator system to assist the least developed countries in translating goals and targets of the Programme of Action into concrete actions in accordance with the national development strategies and priorities of the least developed countries;

"11. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations that have not yet done so to mainstream the implementation of the Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action within their programmes of work as well as in their intergovernmental processes and to undertake within their respective mandates multi-year programming of actions in favour of the least developed countries;

"12. *Encourages* the United Nations resident coordinator system and country teams, as well as country-level representatives of the Bretton Woods institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors and other development partners to collaborate with and provide support to the national development forums and national follow-up mechanisms for the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

"13. *Stresses*, within the context of the annual global reviews, as envisaged in the Programme of Action, the need to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action sector by sector, and in this regard invites the United Nations system and all relevant international organizations, consistent with their respective mandates, to undertake sectoral appraisals of the Programme of Action, to report on the progress made in its implementation using quantifiable criteria and indicators to be measured against the goals and targets of the Programme of Action and to participate fully in reviews of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

"14. *Also stresses* the crucial importance of integrated and coordinated follow-up, monitoring and reporting for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, at the Secretariat level, the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate coordinated implementation as well as coherence in the follow-up to and monitoring and review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, including through such coordination mechanisms as the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-agency Task Force on the Millennium Development Goals;

"16. *Reiterates* its invitation to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and other relevant multilateral organizations, to provide full support to and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

"17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to elaborate and submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a detailed and clearly defined advocacy strategy on the effective and timely implementation of the Programme of Action;

"18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit an annual analytical and results-oriented progress report on the further implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide the resources necessary for the preparation of such a report."

3. At the 33rd meeting, on 6 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/C.2/61/L.64) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Prayono Atiyanto (Indonesia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.37.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of Malaysia orally corrected the text.
5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications (see A/C.2/61/SR.33).
6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.64, as orally corrected (see para. 8).
7. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.64, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.37 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Brussels Declaration¹ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,²

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,³ in particular paragraph 15 thereof, in which the Heads of State and Government undertook to address the special needs of the least developed countries,

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁴

Recalling also its resolution 60/228 of 23 December 2005,

Recalling further its resolution 61/1 of 27 September 2006,

Reaffirming its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the 2004 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council on the theme "Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010",⁵

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁶

2. *Welcomes* the contributions made in the lead-up to the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,⁷ including the elaboration of the Cotonou Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010⁸ as an initiative owned and led by the least developed countries;

¹ A/CONF.191/13, chap. I.

² *Ibid.*, chap. II.

³ See resolution 55/2.

⁴ See resolution 60/1.

⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/59/3)*, chap. III, para. 49.

⁶ A/61/82-E/2006/74 and A/61/82 Corr.1-E/2006/74/Corr.1.

⁷ A/61/117, annex I.

3. *Reaffirms* its commitment to the Declaration⁸ adopted by Heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, in which they recommitted themselves to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries by making progress towards the goals of poverty eradication, peace and development;

4. *Acknowledges* the findings of the midterm comprehensive global review, which stressed that despite some progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, the overall socio-economic situation in the least developed countries continues to be precarious and requires attention and that, given current trends, many least developed countries are unlikely to achieve the goals and objectives set out in the Programme of Action;

5. *Stresses* that the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, can be effectively achieved in the least developed countries through, in particular, the timely fulfilment of the seven commitments of the Programme of Action;

6. *Reaffirms* that the Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, whose goal is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries;

7. *Also reaffirms* that progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action will require effective implementation of national policies and priorities for the sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the least developed countries, as well as strong and committed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners;

8. *Underscores* that for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, the least developed countries and their development partners must be guided by an integrated approach, a broader genuine partnership, country ownership, market considerations and results-oriented actions;

9. *Urges* the least developed countries to strengthen the implementation of the Programme of Action through their respective national development framework, including, where they exist, Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

10. *Also urges* development partners to exercise individual best efforts to continue to increase their financial and technical support for the implementation of the Programme of Action;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations Resident Coordinator system to assist the least developed countries in translating goals and targets of the Programme of Action into concrete actions in the light of their national development priorities;

12. *Also encourages* the Resident Coordinator system and country teams, as well as country-level representatives of the Bretton Woods institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors and other development partners, to collaborate with and provide

⁸ See resolution 61/1.

support to, as appropriate, the relevant development forums and follow-up mechanisms;

13. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system and other multilateral organizations that have not yet done so to mainstream the implementation of the Brussels Declaration¹ and the Programme of Action within their programmes of work as well as in their intergovernmental processes and to undertake within their respective mandates multi-year programming of actions in favour of the least developed countries;

14. *Stresses*, within the context of the annual global reviews, as envisaged in the Programme of Action, the need to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action sector by sector, and in this regard invites the United Nations system and all relevant international organizations, consistent with their respective mandates, to report on the progress made in its implementation using quantifiable criteria and indicators to be measured against the goals and targets of the Programme of Action and to participate fully in reviews of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

15. *Also stresses* the crucial importance of integrated and coordinated follow-up, monitoring and reporting for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, at the Secretariat level, the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate coordinated implementation as well as coherence in the follow-up to and monitoring and review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, including through such coordination mechanisms as the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-agency Expert Group on the Millennium Development Goals Indicators;

17. *Reiterates* its invitation to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, and other relevant multilateral organizations, to provide full support to and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to elaborate and submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a detailed and clearly defined advocacy strategy aimed at raising awareness about the objectives, goals and commitments of the Programme of Action with a view to facilitating its effective and timely implementation;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit an annual analytical and results-oriented progress report on the further implementation of the Programme of Action and to make available adequate resources, within existing resources, for the preparation of such a report.

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Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Vanessa Gomes (Portugal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 56 (see A/61/425, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 29th and 34th meetings, on 14 November and 8 December 2006. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/61/SR.29 and 34).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/61/L.35 and A/C.2/61/L.62

2. At the 29th meeting, on 14 November, the representative of South Africa, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation" (A/C.2/61/L.35), which read:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in three parts, under the symbol A/60/425 and Add.1 and 2.



"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003 and 60/208 of 22 December 2005,

"Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

"Taking note of the Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of Landlocked Developing Countries,

"Recalling the Asunción Platform for the Doha Development Round,

"Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

"Expressing support to developing countries emerging from conflict, in particular landlocked developing countries, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and to assisting them in achieving their development priorities in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General,

"2. Reaffirms the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

"3. Also reaffirms that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe their legitimate interests;

"4. Urges donor countries and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions, in particular the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate technical and financial assistance in the form of grants or concessionary loans for the implementation of the five priorities outlined in the Almaty Programme of Action, in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes;

"5. Reaffirms the importance of trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action and stresses the need for the early resumption of the Doha Round of the World Trade Organization trade negotiations, adhering fully to agreed mandates of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, the July Framework and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;

"6. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor countries should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

"7. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, including the regional commissions, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization and the International Maritime Organization, to integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, and encourages them to continue their support to the landlocked and transit developing countries, inter alia, through well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport;

"8. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001 and in the Almaty Programme of Action and the Almaty Declaration, to continue its cooperation and coordination with organizations within the United Nations system, particularly those engaged in operational activities on the ground in landlocked and transit developing countries, to ensure effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in line with Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003; and also requests the Office to accelerate its work to support the process towards developing necessary indicators to measure the progress in the implementation of the goals and commitments of the Almaty Programme of Action, in close cooperation with relevant organizations;

"9. *Decides* to hold a mid-term review meeting of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries in 2008, in accordance with paragraph 49 of the Almaty Programme of Action; the review should be preceded by, where necessary, national, subregional, regional and substantive preparations in a most effective, well-structured and broad participatory manner; also in accordance with paragraph 49, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States should coordinate the preparatory process and United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, should provide necessary support to the review process;

"10. *Appeals* to donor countries and the international financial and development institutions as well as private entities to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled 'Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation';

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on progress made in the preparation for the comprehensive review."

3. At its 34th meeting, on 8 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation" (A/C.2/61/L.62) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Prayono Atiyanto (Indonesia), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.35.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of programme budget implications.

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.62 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.62, draft resolution A/C.2/61/L.35 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

7. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003 and 60/208 of 22 December 2005,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,²

Taking note of the Declaration of the Heads of State or Government of Landlocked Developing Countries,³

Recalling the Asunción Platform for the Doha Development Round,⁴

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Expressing support to those landlocked developing countries that are emerging from conflict, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and to assisting them in achieving their development priorities in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,⁵

Recalling the New Partnership for Africa's Development,⁶ an initiative for accelerating regional economic cooperation and development, as many landlocked and transit developing countries are located in Africa,

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.

³ A/C.2/61/3, annex.

⁴ A/60/308, annex.

⁵ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.*

⁶ A/57/304, annex.

Welcoming the convening of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Ministerial Conference on Transport, held in Busan, Republic of Korea, on 10 and 11 November 2006, which adopted the Busan Declaration on Transport Development in Asia and the Pacific,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries;⁷

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

3. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe their legitimate interests;

4. *Encourages* donor countries and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions, in particular the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate technical and financial assistance in the form of grants or concessionary loans for the implementation of the five priorities outlined in the Almaty Programme of Action,⁸ in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes and improved communications, to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action, and calls for the early resumption and successful development-oriented outcome of the Doha Round of trade negotiations, adhering fully to the agreed mandate in the Doha Ministerial Declaration,⁹ the Framework adopted by the General Council of the World Trade Organization in its decision of 1 August 2004⁹ and the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration;¹⁰

6. *Emphasizes* that assistance for the improvement of transit transport facilities and services should be integrated into the overall economic development strategies of the landlocked and transit developing countries and that donor countries should consequently take into account the requirements for the long-term restructuring of the economies of the landlocked developing countries;

7. *Recalls* that landlocked and transit developing countries have the primary responsibility for implementing the Almaty Programme of Action, as envisaged in its paragraphs 38 and 38 bis;

⁷ A/61/302.

⁸ A/C.2/56/7, annex.

⁹ World Trade Organization document WT/L/579; available at <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

¹⁰ *Developments and Issues in the Doha Work Programme of Particular Interest to Arab Countries in the Context of Millennium Development Goals* (United Nations publication, UNCTAD/DITC/TNCD/2005/9), annex IV.

8. *Emphasizes* that South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation with the involvement of donors should be further promoted, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations;

9. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other international organizations, including the regional commissions, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization and the International Maritime Organization, to integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, and encourages them to continue their support to the landlocked and transit developing countries, inter alia, through well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport;

10. *Requests* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001 and in the Almaty Programme of Action and the Almaty Declaration,¹¹ to continue its cooperation and coordination with organizations within the United Nations system, particularly those engaged in operational activities on the ground in landlocked and transit developing countries, to ensure effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action in line with Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, and also requests the Office to intensify the efforts to establish effective indicators to measure the progress in the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in close cooperation with relevant organizations;

11. *Decides* to hold a midterm review meeting of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries in 2008, in accordance with paragraph 49 of the Almaty Programme of Action; the review should be preceded, where necessary, by national, subregional, regional and substantive preparations in a most effective, well-structured and broad participatory manner and should be organized within existing resources; intergovernmental mechanisms at the global and regional levels, including those of United Nations regional commissions, as well as relevant substantive material and statistical data, should be effectively utilized in the review process; also in accordance with paragraph 49, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States should coordinate the preparatory process and United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, should provide necessary support to the review process;

12. *Encourages* donor countries and the international financial and development institutions as well as private entities to make voluntary contributions

¹¹ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.*

to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-second session the item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation";

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session a report on progress made in the preparation for the midterm review meeting.